

available for assistance for the Peace and Justice Unit of the Colombian Fiscalía notwithstanding section 599E of Public Law 109-102: *Provided further*, That

SA 3824. Mr. VOINOVICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3613 submitted by Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DAYTON) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 4939, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. ____ CHICAGO SANITARY AND SHIP CANAL DEMONSTRATION BARRIER, ILLINOIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Of the unobligated balances available for “OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE” under the heading “CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL” of title I of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-103; 119 Stat. 2250), \$400,000 shall be made available for fiscal year 2006 for the maintenance of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Demonstration Barrier, Illinois, which was constructed under section 1202(i)(3) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4722(i)(3)).

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1202(i)(3)(C) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4722(i)(3)(C)), is amended by striking “,” to carry out this paragraph, \$750,000” and inserting “such sums as are necessary to carry out the dispersal barrier demonstration project under this paragraph”.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Monday, May 8, 2006 at 3 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony regarding issues associated with the implementation of the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 addressing licensing of hydroelectric facilities.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Kellie Donnelly at (202) 224-9360 or Steve Waskiewicz at (202) 228-6195.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, May 1 at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony regarding the economic and environmental issues associated with coal gasification technology and on implementation of the provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 addressing coal gasification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Darren Benjamin, a detailee to the Committee on Appropriations, and Chris Heggem of committee staff be granted floor privileges during the debate on H.R. 4939.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

GERMAN RELEASE OF MOHAMMAD ALI HAMMADI

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 457, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 457) expressing the sense of the Senate that the citizens of the United States and the United States Government have serious concerns regarding the release of convicted terrorist and murderer Mohammad Ali Hammadi by the Government of Germany.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise in support of S. Res. 457, expressing the Senate's disappointment with the government of Germany concerning their release of convicted terrorist and murderer Mohammad Ali Hammadi.

The German government in December of 2005 released Mohammad Ali Hammadi, a Hezbollah leader who killed U.S. Navy diver Robert Dean Stethem in the June 1985 Hezbollah hijacking of TWA Flight 847. Coincidentally, a few days later Susanne Osthoff, a German hostage was released. Mr. Stethem was savagely beaten and then executed for refusing the demands of his hijackers. Hammadi and his fellow terrorists escaped, but Hammadi was eventually arrested in Germany in 1987 for traveling with liquid explosives and sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Mr. Stethem. Hammadi's other accomplices are still part of the FBI's most wanted list and have a 15 million dollar bounty on their heads.

The German government released Hammadi despite a U.S. request for his

extradition to face numerous charges of terrorism. He was sentenced to life yet only served 18 years. Furthermore, despite our longstanding agreement to honor each others' extradition requests the German government flew Hammadi to Lebanon to reunite with his brothers who are senior Hezbollah leaders. The Germans did this despite knowing the United States does not have an extradition treaty with the government of Lebanon.

Sadly, the family of United States Navy diver Robert Dean Stethem was not notified in advance of Mr. Hammadi's release. Mr. Stethem is an American hero who was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery. He also has a United States Navy ship named in his honor called the USS *Stethem*.

We should continue to call on Lebanon to hand over Hammadi and other wanted terrorists to face trial in the United States, and we urge Lebanon to comply with such requests in order to help foster better relations between the United States and Lebanon. While the United States should continue to assist Lebanon in democratic reform initiatives, we must see results in denying refuge to some of the world's most wanted terrorists. The people of Lebanon have made great strides in recent times but the government of Lebanon must understand that continuing to harbor terrorists will only further isolate them from the international community and put future financial aid in doubt.

The murderers of Robert Stethem must be brought to justice, and a clear message must be sent that the brutal murder of American service members or civilians will neither be tolerated nor forgotten.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 457) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 457

Whereas, although the Government of Germany has been a significant partner in combating international terrorism, their release of Mohammad Ali Hammadi was a grave and unfortunate mistake;

Whereas, in 1985, Mr. Hammadi, along with Hasan Izz-Al-Din, Ali Atwa, and Imad Fayeze Mugniyah, hijacked Trans World Airlines Flight 847, and subsequently escaped from the scene of the hijacking;

Whereas United States Navy Petty Officer Robert Dean Stethem was singled out during the hijacking of Trans World Airlines Flight 847 because he was a serviceman of the United States, savagely beaten before being executed, and dumped on the tarmac of Beirut International Airport;

Whereas Petty Officer Stethem was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart and buried at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, in 1987, Mr. Hammadi was arrested at Frankfurt Airport while carrying liquid explosives in his luggage;

Whereas, in 1989, Mr. Hammadi, a Shiite militant from Lebanon, was convicted in a court in Germany for the brutal killing of Petty Officer Stethem and was sentenced to life in prison in Germany;

Whereas, after less than 19 years behind bars Mr. Hammadi was released in December 2005 and flown to Lebanon by the Government of Germany even though the United States does not have an extradition treaty with the Government of Lebanon; and

Whereas the release of Mr. Hammadi came in the face of strong opposition from the United States Government, and Petty Officer Stethem's parents were not even informed in advance that the killer of their son was to be released; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the unfortunate actions of the Government of Germany with respect to Mohammad Ali Hammadi have undermined the joint efforts by the United States Government and the Government of Germany to effectively combat international terrorism;

(2) the early release of Mr. Hammadi sends a signal of weakness to terrorist groups such as Hezbollah and could increase the likelihood of further terrorist attacks against the citizens of Europe and the rest of the world;

(3) the United States Government should continue to call on the Government of Lebanon to hand over Mr. Hammadi and other known terrorists so that they may face trial in the United States;

(4) the United States Government should take all appropriate steps to secure the arrest of Mr. Hammadi and his fellow hijackers and their transfer to the United States for trial; and

(5) the murderers of United States Navy Petty Officer Robert Dean Stethem must be brought to justice, and a clear message must be sent to the international community that the brutal murder of service members or civilians of the United States will neither be tolerated nor forgotten.

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2006—Continued

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3791; 3648, AS MODIFIED; 3630; AND 3631

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to resume the supplemental appropriations bill; provided further that the following amendments be considered and agreed to: Nos. 3791; 3648, as modified; 3630; and 3631.

I further ask unanimous consent that the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table and the Senate resume a period of morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3648), as modified, was agreed to.

The amendment (Nos. 3630, 3631, and 3791) were agreed to, as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3630

(Purpose: To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report to Congress on the status of its 2006 Atlantic hurricane season disaster response plan)

On page 142, after line 24, insert the following:

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS CHAPTER HURRICANE RESPONSE PLAN FOR THE 2006 HURRICANE SEASON

SEC. 2201. (a) In this section—

(1) the terms “Administration” and “Administrator” mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

(2) the term “Disaster Loan Program” means the disaster loan program authorized under section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636);

(3) the term “major disaster” has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122);

(4) the term “small business concern” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632);

(5) the term “system” means the Disaster Credit Management System of the Administration; and

(6) the term “2006 Atlantic hurricane season” means the period beginning on June 1, 2006, and ending on November 30, 2006.

(b) Not later than May 31, 2006, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the status of the disaster response plan of the Administration for the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season.

(c) The report required under subsection (b) shall include—

(1) the plan of the Administrator for responding quickly and efficiently after the occurrence of a major disaster during the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season and subsequent major disasters (including preparation and planning for disaster response resources and staff, such as identifying loss verifiers and technical assistance staff to deploy to potential disaster areas in advance of chartable events such as hurricanes);

(2) a description of how the Administrator plans to integrate and coordinate the response to a major disaster with the staff and resources of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (including details on where and when joint training sessions are planned during the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season);

(3) a description of how the Administrator plans to integrate and coordinate the response to a major disaster with the technical assistance programs of the Administration (including the small business development centers);

(4) the contingency plans of the Administration, if any, for handling increases in the volume of applications under the Disaster Loan Program during the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season (including detailed plans for using local banks, credit unions, and businesses in an area in which the President declares a major disaster or the hiring of additional loan processing and loss verification staff);

(5) any available or revised surge plans for the system (including surge plans for loss verification, loan processing, mailroom, customer service or call center operations, and a continuity of operations plan);

(6) information on the plans of the Administration, if any, for upgrading the Disaster Loan Program application processing system, including—

(A) the user capacity of the system; and

(B) the estimated cost for upgrading the software and equipment to handle additional users;

(7) the number of full-time equivalent employees and job descriptions for the planning and disaster response staff of the Administration;

(8) information (including potential cost estimates) on whether—

(A) the Administrator plans to hire full-time planning staff during the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season; and

(B) such full-time planner would be hired in the Office of Disaster Assistance or in another office of the Administration;

(9) the inservice and preservice training procedures for disaster response staff of the Administration;

(10) information on the logistical support plans of the Administration (including equipment and staffing needs, and detailed information on how such plans will be scalable depending on the size and scope of the major disaster);

(11) information on the procurement procedures of the Administration for acquiring equipment and staff, including—

(A) standard procurement procedures during nondisaster periods;

(B) standard procurement procedures before and after major disasters;

(C) whether the Administration meets the criteria to be exempt from the normal General Services Administration procurement process for its disaster response; and

(D) whether any administrative or legislative changes are needed to allow the Administration to be exempt from the normal General Service Administration procurement process in response to a disaster; and

(12) a description of the findings and recommendations of the Administrator, if any, based on a review of the response of the Administration to Hurricane Katrina of 2005, Hurricane Rita of 2005, and Hurricane Wilma of 2005.

AMENDMENT NO. 3631

(Purpose: To require monthly reporting regarding the Disaster Loan Program of the Small Business Administration)

On page 142, after line 24, insert the following:

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS CHAPTER

DISASTER LOAN PROGRAM MONTHLY ACCOUNTING REPORT

SEC. 2201. (a) In this section—

(1) the term “applicable period” means the period beginning on the date on which the President declares a major disaster and ending on the date that is 30 days after the later of the closing date for applications for physical disaster loans for such disaster and the closing date for applications for economic injury disaster loans for such disaster; and

(2) the term “major disaster” has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

(b) Not later than the fifth business day of each month during the applicable period for a major disaster, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall provide to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and to the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the operation of the disaster loan program authorized under section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) for such disaster during the preceding month.

(c) Each report under subsection (b) shall include—

(1) the daily average lending volume, in number of loans and dollars, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under subsection (b);

(2) the weekly average lending volume, in number of loans and dollars, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under subsection (b);